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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/648,225	08/27/2003	Chun Yong Chen	3079/187	4308

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DENNISON, SCHULTZ, DOUGHERTY & MACDONALD
1727 KING STREET
SUITE 105
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

SORKIN, DAVID L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1723

DATE MAILED: 04/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/648,225

Applicant(s)

CHEN, CHUN YONG

Examiner

David L. Sorkin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date N/A
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 13 February 2006 has been entered.

Specification

2. The amendment filed 13 February 2006 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: No description of the disc having slits is found in the original filing. Also, the added material concerning the ends of the shank is considered new matter.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Independent claim 6 requires that the disc

have "slits". No such slits are described in the original application as filed.

Furthermore, the relationship between a second end of the shank and said lower surface of the disc now claimed in claim 6 is not described in the original filing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rose (US 1,100,491). Regarding independent claim 6, Rose ('491) discloses a stirrer comprising a circular disc (25,28) having an upper and lower surface, a central bore in an axial direction, and plurality of peripheral angle blade-receiving slits (see page 1, lines 85-94); a shank (22) having a first end and a second end, wherein said second end extends through said central bore to (and beyond) said lower surface and attached to said circular disc; a plurality of blades (26) fixedly disposed within a corresponding blade receiving slit and configured and dimensioned to extend beyond said upper and lower circular disc surfaces in said axial direction, as well as extending outwardly in said peripheral direction away from said disc (see Fig. 4). The device of Rose ('491) would be capable of being used in the manner discussed in the claim. Regarding claim 4, each of the plurality of blades has a flat rectangular shape (see Fig. 4). Regarding claim 5, each of said plurality of blades is integrally formed with said circular disc, each

of said plurality of blades is inserted in an inclined way deviating from the disc 40 to 50 degrees from where a radius of the disc intersects the blade in a counted clockwise direction relative to the shank (see Fig. 2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rose (US 1,100,491) in view of Bakker (US 5,791,780). The stirrer of Rose ('491), discussed above, is not disclosed as being made of stainless steel. Bakker ('780) teaches making a stirrer of stainless steel (see col. 3, lines 63). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have made the stirrer of stainless steel to obtain the corrosion preventing benefit explained in col. 3, lines 62-64 of Bakker ('780).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant states that "In order to overcome the Section 112, first paragraph rejections, Applicant has amended the specification to include description of the slits." However, adding new matter to the specification is no way to comply with the description requirement.

10. Applicant argues that the new recitations concerning the ends of the shank distinguish the claims over Rose ('491). Applicant argues that "stated somewhat differently, the second end of the shank becomes flush with the lower surface of the disc

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and does not contact any other structures". However, the claim does not have an negative limitation such as "does not contact any other structures" and does not actual require the end to be flush with the surface of the disc. The claim requires the shank to extend "through the central bore to said lower surface", but does not rule out the possibility that the shank extend beyond the lower surface. The shank of Rose ('491) extends through the central bore, to the lower surface and beyond and is therefore considered to be within the scope the claim. In fact, it is the instant application as originally filed that does not meet the claim limitation, rather the Rose ('491).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L. Sorkin whose telephone number is 571-272-1148. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 -5:30 Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda L. Walker can be reached on 571-272-1151. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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David L. Sorkin
Primary Examiner
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DLS